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ABSTRACT

To identify postsecondary educational needs within its rapidly growing service area, factors preventing students from taking classes at the colleges, and services that would encourage students to take classes, Piedmont Virginia Community College (PVCC) surveyed all Greene County households in April 1993. A total of 4,625 surveys were mailed, requesting information on demographics, awareness of and experience with PVCC, and enrollment influences. Study findings, based on a 9.2% response rate (N=425), included the following: (1) survey respondents were older, more highly educated, and more likely to be female and employed than the average county resident; (2) 67.1% of the respondents had taken classes at PVCC, of whom 22.9% were still currently enrolled; (3) 15% of the respondents had graduated from PVCC; (4) 70.4% of the respondents indicated that they had at some time wanted to take a class at PVCC, but were unable to do so; (5) the two major obstacles to taking classes at PVCC were time and location, with "commuting time" as the factor cited by the most respondents (85.2%); and (6) factors that respondents indicated would most likely encourage them to take classes at PVCC were additional off-campus courses (89.2%), additional off-campus locations (84.5%), and more special-interest courses (77.6%). The survey instrument, detailed data tables, and respondents' narrative comments are appended. (PAA)

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RESULTS Of THE GREENE COUNTY

POSTSECONDARY EDUCATIONAL NEEDS SURVEY

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Research Report No. 3-93

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Brief No. 93-3

PVCC Institutional Research Brief June 1993

THE GREENE COUNTY POSTSECONDARY EDUCATIONAL NEEDS SURVEY

In recent years, Greene County has become the fastest growing jurisdiction within the Piedmont Virginia Community College (PVCC) service region. Between 1980 and 1990, the population of Greene County grew by 35%. The jurisdiction with the next highest growth rate, Albemarle County, grew by only 22%. Between 1990 and 2000, the population is projected to grow by an annual rate of 2.7%. This is a whole percentage figure higher than the next fastest growing locality (Fluvanna County, 1.7%). This tremendous growth has made it difficult for PVCC to anticipate the postsecondary educational needs of Greene County residents. With this in mind, a survey was developed by the PVCC Office of Institutional Research and Planning to determine these needs, and to measure what factors prevent residents from taking PVCC classes, as well as what services would encourage them to take classes. In April 1993, 4,625 questionnaires--or one for every household in Greene County--were mailed. By mid-June, 425 valid questionnaires were returned. The response rate (9.2%) met the college's goal of between 5% and 10%. This brief highlights the findings of the survey which were reported in *Results of the Greene County Postsecondary Educational Needs Survey* (PVCC Institutional Research Report No. 3-93, June 1993).

The citizens of Greene County seem quite aware of the services offered by PVCC to county residents. At the time the survey was administered, two of every three survey respondents had taken classes at the college, and nearly one of every four was currently enrolled. Fifteen percent had graduated from PVCC.

Although aware of the educational opportunities provided by the college, many residents confessed that at times they were unable to take advantage of PVCC services. Three of every four respondents stated that on at least one occasion they wanted to, but were unable to, take classes at PVCC. The main reasons for this concerned time and location. To many of the respondents, the commuting time to the main campus in Charlottesville is simply too long, and not enough of the classes they want are offered in Greene County. Furthermore, many of the classes offered in the county are scheduled at inconvenient times. Table 1 displays factors which, as noted on the questionnaire, "might prevent [one] from taking a class at PVCC." The percentage of survey respondents listing each factor is noted in the table, as is the importance respondents attached to that factor. The importance is listed as the mean (average) response on a scale of from "1," signifying little importance, to "5," signifying great importance. The factors are presented in order of importance.

(Continued on reverse side)

TABLE 1: Factors Preventing Greene County Residents from Taking Classes at PVCC

Factor	Pct. Responding	Mean Score
Inconvenient time	80.5%	3.86
Commuting time	85.2%	3.68
Inconvenient location	81.2%	3.65
Job demands (too little time)	83.1%	3.38
Personal demands (too little time)	78.4%	3.28
Cost too high	78.6%	2.95
Lack of child care	68.7%	2.05
Lack of transportation	69.9%	1.70
Other	9.2%	3.31

As can be seen in Table 2, which shows which additional services PVCC might provide to encourage Greene County residents to take classes, additional off-campus courses, as well as additional off-campus locations, were rated highest by respondents. Additional courses should range from traditional, "core" courses to narrow, vocational offerings. A number of respondents expressed a desire to enroll in special interest classes. All additional classes should be offered at locations which would reduce considerably commuting time.

TABLE 2: Factors Encouraging Greene County Residents to Take Classes at PVCC

Factor	Pct. Responding	Mean Score
Additional off-campus courses	89.2%	4.29
Additional off-campus locations	84.5%	4.12
More special interest courses	77.6%	3.87
Lower tuition and fees	81.9%	3.71
Additional credit for life experiences	75.3%	3.37
Additional career and job services	72.7%	3.03
Improved registration procedures	69.2%	2.91
Greater instructor availability	66.1%	2.70
Additional counseling services	68.9%	2.37
Child care facilities	67.8%	2.26
More public transportation	68.0%	1.95
More recreational facilities or offerings	67.3%	1.87
More student activities	66.4%	1.60
Other	10.1%	3.02

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RESULTS OF THE GREENE COUNTY POSTSECONDARY EDUCATIONAL NEEDS SURVEY

INTRODUCTION

Ever since its founding in 1972, Piedmont Virginia Community College (PVCC) has served the postsecondary educational needs of the residents of Greene County. Not only have Greene County residents taken classes at PVCC, but PVCC has offered a number of classes at various locations within Greene County itself. In recent years, Greene County has become the fastest growing jurisdiction within the PVCC service region.[1] Between 1980 and 1990, the population of Greene County grew by 35%. The jurisdiction with the next highest growth rate, Albemarle County, grew by only 22%. Between 1990 and 2000, the population is projected to grow by an annual rate of 2.7%. This is a whole percentage figure higher than the next fastest growing locality (Fluvanna County, 1.7%).

Because of this tremendous growth, it is difficult for an institution such as PVCC to anticipate the educational needs and demands of Greene County citizens. With this in mind, the president of PVCC, Deborah DiCroce, met with the Greene County Chamber of Commerce in March 1993 to discuss PVCC's role in providing post-secondary programs and classes within Greene County. At that meeting, both Dr. DiCroce and Chamber members agreed that further information was needed. Both decided that a survey should be conducted to determine precisely the postsecondary

[1]The PVCC service region consists of the counties of Albemarle, Buckingham, Fluvanna, Greene, Louisa, and Nelson, as well as the City of Charlottesville. Buckingham and Louisa counties are "shared" between PVCC and other Virginia Community College System (VCCS) institutions.

education needs of Greene County residents, what factors prevent residents from taking PVCC classes, and what services would encourage them to take classes.

Responsibility for the survey was assigned to the PVCC Office of Institutional Research and Planning, and as noted in the methodology section of this report, the survey was developed and administered in April 1993. This report presents the results of the survey.

METHODOLOGY

The survey instrument, or questionnaire, which is included in this report as Appendix A, was designed to discover the extent to which Greene County residents attend PVCC, whether such factors as commuting time, location, transportation, or cost prevent them from taking PVCC classes, and whether additional courses, locations, or services might encourage them to enroll. Additionally, demographic data were requested from each survey respondent in order to determine how closely the survey respondent pool mirrored the overall population of Greene County.

In order to obtain a representative sample of county residents, all households in Greene County were surveyed. Questionnaires, along with a cover letter by Dr. DiCroce explaining the purpose of the survey, were mailed toward the end of April 1993. Mailing Services of Virginia, located in Charlottesville, assisted the college with the actual mailing of the questionnaires.

Statistical analysis of the survey data was mostly descriptive. Raw analyses are provided in this report as Appendix B. In this appendix, responses for each question

in the survey are presented as histograms. Additionally, mean rankings for each of the various elements of question number 4 (factors preventing residents from taking PVCC classes) and question number 5 (services which would encourage residents to take classes) are listed. All of the comments of the survey respondents are presented in Appendix C.

In all, 4,625 questionnaires were mailed to Greene County residences. Based upon a community needs survey of the entire PVCC service region, conducted in 1991, as well as similar surveys conducted at other educational institutions, the college expectation that the return rate would be between 5% and 10% was met.[2] Four-hundred twenty-five valid questionnaires were returned for a response rate of 9.2%.

DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

Demographically, survey respondents were representative of the Greene County population as a whole in only certain respects. The most noticeable difference between survey respondents and the county population as a whole concerned sex. Although approximately one of every two Greene County residents is male (49.8%), only 29.4% of the survey respondents were male. This difference could be the result of the way the survey was administered--women may be more likely than men to respond to surveys mailed to households.[3]

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[2]See Ronald B. Head, *Serving the Community: Results of the 1991 PVCC Community Survey* (PVCC Institutional Report No. 4-91, August 1991).

[3]In the 1991 PVCC community survey, 35.2% of the respondents were male and 48.5% of the population as a whole was male (*Serving the Community*, p. 4).

In terms of race, respondents were quite similar to citizens in general. Ninety-two and nine-tenth percent of the population of Greene County is white; 92.7% of the survey respondents were white. Six and four-tenth percent of the population is black; 5.3% of the respondents were black. Slightly less than one percent (0.7%) of the population is of another minority race; slightly less than two percent (1.9%) of the respondents were of another minority race.

As might be expected, since the survey was mailed to adult heads of households, respondents were older than citizens in general. The average age of respondents was 37.5; the average age of the population as a whole is 32.2. Seventy-seven percent of all respondents were 25 years of age or older; only 64.6% of the population is 25 or older. The youngest respondent was 17, the oldest 80, and the median age of the respondents was 36.

A higher percentage of survey respondents than citizens as a whole was employed (respondents = 79.6%; population = 70.8%), or unemployed (respondents = 5%; population = 1.8%), but a lower percentage was not in the labor force at all (respondents = 15.4%; population = 27.4%). In terms of marital status, respondents were quite similar to the population as a whole. Approximately two-thirds were married (respondents = 67.1%; population = 64%); 17.5% were unmarried (population = 20.7%) and 15.3% were separated, divorced, or widowed (population = 15.4%).

Educationally, survey respondents had more schooling than the population in general. Only a small percentage of the respondents (2.7%) had not completed high school; over one-third of the population (35.5%) does not have a high school

diploma. Nearly one-third (30.4%) of the respondents had earned bachelor's, master's, or doctoral degrees; only 12% of the population has graduated from college.

In summary, a much larger percentage of survey respondents than of the Greene County population were female. Survey respondents were also generally older, more highly educated, and more likely to be employed. These differences raise the question of how representative the respondents were of the population as a whole.

Because population distributions are available for both the survey sample and the entire county population with respect to sex, race, age, employment status, marital status, and education, the Chi Square ("Goodness of Fit") test can be used to determine how

TABLE 1: Chi Square and Probability Values for Sex, Race, Age, Education, Marital Status, and Employment of Greene County Survey Respondents and County Residents

Characteristic	Chi Square	Degrees of Freedom	Probability
Sex	19.079	1	0.0000
Race	1.103	4	0.8938
Age	712.106	4	0.0000
Education	810.773	7	0.0000
Marital Status	0.729	2	0.6945
Employment	12.372	2	0.0021

representative the sample actually was.[4] Table 1 presents chi square and probability values for sex, race, age, education, marital status, and employment status.[5]

Clearly, the probability values for all of these characteristics, except race and marital status, are quite low. Statistically, based upon the chi square test, survey respondents on the whole were not representative of the Greene County population. Practically, however, it must be remembered that the survey was general in nature, intended only to determine public higher education needs and services, and not to measure "hard" data. In this respect, the methodology used to distribute the survey instrument was not selected with high validity in mind. Furthermore, what the chi square test truly indicates is that in terms of certain demographic characteristics (sex, age, education, and employment status), the sample group surveyed differed significantly from the county population (in other characteristics--race and marital status--it did not differ). It does not signify that the answers of the respondents to the questions posed on the survey instrument would necessarily be any different from the responses of other citizens of Greene County. Sex, age, education, and employment status might well have little bearing upon how one responds to these questions. More important might be such factors as familiarity with the college, the experiences of

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[4]"Goodness of Fit" refers to how well sample values fit into expected population values. If sample and population values are identical (if, for instance, 50% of all survey respondents and 50% of all county residents are male), the chi square value would be 0.0 and the probability that survey respondents were representative of the county population would be 1.0 (which corresponds to 100%). Generally, the larger the chi square value, the more a sample differs from a population. The probability is calculated based upon the chi square value and the degrees of freedom and tested against a predetermined level of significance (typically, 0.05 or 0.01). If the probability is less than the level of significance, then the sample is probably not representative of the population.

[5]Greene County population data were taken from the 1990 census.

friends and relative who have attended PVCC, or the relationship between a person's occupation and programs of study at PVCC.

AWARENESS OF AND EXPERIENCES AT PVCC

Approximately two of every three survey respondents indicated that they had taken classes at PVCC. Nearly one-third indicated that other members of their household had also taken classes at the college. Of those respondents who had attended PVCC, 22.9% were currently enrolled and most had taken more than one class at the college. Over one-third had completed between two and four classes, and over one-quarter had completed 10 or more classes. Fifteen percent had earned degrees or certificates at PVCC.

Nearly half of those who had studied at PVCC took all their classes at the main campus in Charlottesville. Slightly over one-third took their classes both on- and off-campus. Of the remainder, 13.8% took all their classes in Greene County and 5.3% took them elsewhere.

The experiences of these respondents at PVCC were generally positive. One respondent noted, "I was personally impressed with the classes as well as the instructors at PVCC." Another stated, "I think PVCC is doing a terrific job answering the needs of this Piedmont area." Still another claimed, "I can't praise the PVCC facility enough." And finally one wrote, "PVCC is an asset to the community. I don't know what Greene County ever did without it. I guess we didn't get to further our education."

Despite this praise, nearly three of every four survey respondents answered "yes" to the question "Have you every wanted to take a class at PVCC but not been able to?" Some of their reasons are discussed in the next section of this report.

FACTORS PREVENTING ENROLLMENT AT PVCC

Table 2 displays a number of factors which, as noted on the questionnaire, "might prevent [one] from taking a class at PVCC." The percentage of survey respondents listing each factor is noted in the table, as is the importance respondents attached to that factor. The importance is listed as the mean (average) response on a scale of from "1," signifying little importance, to "5," signifying great importance. The factors are presented in order of importance.

TABLE 2: Factors Preventing Greene County Residents from Taking Classes at PVCC

Factor	Pct. Responding	Mean Score
Inconvenient time	80.5%	3.86
Commuting time	85.2%	3.68
Inconvenient location	81.2%	3.65
Job demands (too little time)	83.1%	3.38
Personal demands (too little time)	78.4%	3.28
Cost too high	78.6%	2.95
Lack of child care	68.7%	2.05
Lack of transportation	69.9%	1.70
Other	9.2%	3.31

As can be seen, location and time were the two major factors preventing many respondents from taking classes at PVCC. The single factor cited by the most respondents (85.2%) was "commuting time," and in terms of importance, this was second only to "inconvenient time." "Inconvenient

location" was cited by the second largest number of respondents and received the second highest mean score. Too little time because of job demands, as well as too little time because of personal demands, were also cited by a large percentage of respondents and received high mean scores.

Many of the comments by survey respondents concerning time and location eloquently present the dilemma of balancing professional and personal demands with the desire to further one's education. One respondent wrote,

> I have been wanting to attend PVCC classes in Greene Co. Having a family and full-time job makes it difficult to commute to PVCC campus several times a week. I always browse through your course/class paper that comes through the mail. I have always had a desire to complete my education. For adults like myself, if your school could offer more courses, in more convenient locations, I would be thrilled for the chance to finish my education.

Several noted the frustration of commuting to PVCC--

> I myself drive 30 miles to PVCC and it takes me an hour to get through the traffic, which is ridiculous.

> For me personally, the biggest drawback to attending PVCC is the sixty mile round trip to and from the school. Unfortunately, there are very few courses offered in the Greene County area that are appropriate for the serious student.

> Classes I would like to take are only offered at Piedmont, and the driving time means I don't get home until almost 11 p.m. This restricts the number of classes I can take at one time due to my time restrictions.

> Too long to drive! If I took a class that's 3 hours by the time I drive back and forth that class is almost 5 hours!!!

and several others noted the frustration of classes offered at inconvenient times:

> Your classes that are held at the Tech school [in Greene County] are always on a Tuesday & Thursday evening which is very inconvenient!

> Some classes on Saturday evenings would be nice because I work late 2 nights a week and am unable to be at class before 7:00. The classes usually start at 6 or 6:30. More Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday classes.

> I would like to see more courses offered earlier in the evening, 5-7:30 would be ideal. Having classes from 7-10 is too late if you've worked all day. . . . I would like to stress, have classes start earlier--4 or 5 o'clock p.m.

Although fewer respondents cited cost, lack of transportation, and lack of child care as factors preventing them from taking classes, and although the importance of these three factors was rated lower than other factors by respondents, for some Greene County residents they were crucial. Concerning cost, one respondent stated, "I was at PVCC from 1973-1978 and tuition was $75.00 for a full load of 12 hours. Now it costs that (practically) to take one class. Your costs are ridiculously high." Another declared, "I would like very much to take some courses, but we are too high of income for any assistance, but our bill to income ratio is almost equal so I am unable to pay for classes.

Concerning child care, a respondent wrote,

> People such as I need a chance to advance our education so that I can afford to pay child care. I'm talking about quality child care. So that I can be comfortable working and giving my kids a better chance at a successful education that me or my husband do not have.

> Please take my comments seriously because a lot of people in my situation are ashamed to tell how they really feel. If you can better one person by my comments that I have written one person is in a better situation than I.

Another respondent stated, "I am a 25 year old single parent of two children. I get very little assistance from my ex-husband. I am interested in something that would allow me to go to school and have my children within the same area (with someone who is very trustworthy)." Still another commented, "I have 2 children 2 years old and a diabetic and a 2 month old. It is very hard trying to get someone to watch them for me to do anything."

Other factors not listed on the questionnaire but cited by survey respondents ranged from "wrong classes" to "lack of interest," and included such things as "babysitting," "drive 45 min. for 2 hr. class, would like 4 hr. class," "working swing shift limits classroom time available," "recently moved to this area & have not yet looked into courses," and "have not taken GED, I stopped school beginning of 8th Grade." One respondent cryptically mentioned as a factor "care given for another."

FACTORS ENCOURAGING ENROLLMENT AT PVCC

Table 3 lists a number of factors which, as noted on the questionnaire, "would encourage [one] to take classes at PVCC." The percentage of survey respondents listing each factor is noted in the table, as is the importance respondents attached to that factor. As in Table 2, the importance is listed as the mean (average) response on a scale of from "1" to "5", and the factors are presented in order of importance.

TABLE 3: Factors Encouraging Greene County Residents to Take Classes at PVCC

Factor	Pct. Responding	Mean Score
Additional off-campus courses	89.2%	4.29
Additional off-campus locations	84.5%	4.12
More special interest courses	77.6%	3.87
Lower tuition and fees	81.9%	3.71
Additional credit for life experiences	75.3%	3.37
Additional career and job services	72.7%	3.03
Improved registration procedures	69.2%	2.91
Greater instructor availability	66.1%	2.70
Additional counseling services	68.9%	2.37
Child care facilities	67.8%	2.26
More public transportation	68.0%	1.95
More recreational facilities or offerings	67.3%	1.87
More student activities	66.4%	1.60
Other	10.1%	3.02

The factor cited by the most respondents and receiving the highest mean score was "additional off-campus courses." Courses desired by respondents ranged from "core" courses such as English or math to specialized, vocational classes such as EMT or welding. A number of respondents stated that more special interest courses, such as art, music, Tai Chi, "low-fat healthy cooking," or "world event discussion-type classes" (to name just a few mentioned by respondents), should be offered. As can

be seen in Table 3, "more special interest courses" received the third highest mean score in terms of importance.

The factor cited by the second largest percentage respondents and receiving the second highest mean score was "additional off-campus locations." One respondent commented, "I am very interested in the possibility of establishing satellite and/or extended campus facilities for PVCC in the future. With the current growth trends in Greene County, including a 9% growth in the school system during the past year . . . many high school graduates attend PVCC." Another concurred. "Another college should be built," this respondent wrote, "but better serve the rural community. Madison, Orange, Greene, etc. have to travel very far and that is time-consuming." Not all respondents, however, believed that additional sites are needed. One respondent, for instance, wrote, "Greene County does not need a campus. It seems desirable to get our younger students away from the home environment."

"Lower tuition and fees" was the next most important factor, followed by "additional credit for life experiences," and "additional career and job services." These three factors all had mean scores above 3.0.

Some constructive suggestions were made by respondents. With respect to tuition and fees, one respondent wrote,

> At one point, PVCC allowed partial payment of tuition fees to reserve a spot in a class. However, when I resumed taking classes in 1988 and was told that full payment of tuition and fees was needed immediately to insure that you would remain registered in your classes. If this is still the case then I believe the policy should be changed. Given the services that PVCC provides and the current state of the economy, increasing tuition rates is understandable. Even at the current tuition rate attendance at PVCC should be considered a bargain. However, the previously mentioned policy excludes a significant amount of prospective students from attending PVCC. Those

who are ineligible for financial aid or just don't want to apply for aid to take a few classes often cannot attend because of this policy. An installment plan where one could pay a portion of tuition and fees when registering and the rest by mid-semester would make it easier to attend school.

With respect to publicity, a respondent stated, "It would be very helpful to have course descriptions included in your regular mailings. I have very specific interests and never know what your courses cover." Another commented, "Publicity that's real, not phoney can really make an impact and open up the closed minds so they will want to further their education beyond high school." Some other useful suggestions included the following:

Allow on-site registration at first class meeting to eliminate additional trip to PVCC for that purpose.

I just finished a PVCC class at Albemarle High School. This saved me a lot of driving time, Maybe classes on the 29 route, like at Hollymead, would draw more people than coming all the way to the Greene schools. There is a lot of growth in Greene County, but most of it centers around Ruckersville, and most people are driving to Charlottesville to work.

I think the courses at Albemarle High School are convenient for Greene residents but why can't we use the new section of the high school? Why do you cram people into those small desks when you have much nicer rooms available?

Working swing shift (4 day shift/4 weeks night shift) is becoming more popular in my age group of people who would like to continue their education. If classes could swing also or if one would be able to take the same course but switch classes and or instructors according to his or her shift, this would encourage more enrollment.

If a counselor could take the time to show me the variety of ways a degree could take me, I could feel confident of a program--they kept directing me into a liberal arts degree, but being an untraditional students. How am I to know what that is? I deal in reality--what kind of a job can I get with this degree?

I feel there is a sufficient need in this area for another "4-year institution." I find if one works full-time in this region, it is likely he/she will not be able to continue on-going

> education toward a 4 year diploma. What are the possibilities that Piedmont may, at some point in the future, offer practical extended educational opportunities (4 year degree)?? I don't think U.Va. nor "the Mary Baldwin Program" are fully meeting the needs of the community! We need 4 year degrees!

> A few years ago I wanted to take Principles of Management. It was only offered at inconvenient times and places. I made a request to [individual's name], who wasn't sure if Greene County had enough interested people. I then spoke to the local Chamber of Commerce who made calls to members suggesting that this course might help their business. It worked. We had 35 people register for the class, but it was a lot of work just to get the class I needed. A similar request/opinion poll of residents might work to determine who wants or needs what.

Other factors not listed on the questionnaire but cited by survey respondents ranged from "wide variety of courses in Greene" to "none," and included such things as "self-improvement courses", "used book reservations/delivery to off-campus locations", and "higher quality part-time faculty". One respondent mentioned the following as a way to encourage Greene County residents to take classes at PVCC:

> More training in dance arts, beginning ballet or pre-ballet to give children a chance to realize their potential in these areas & create <u>some</u> beautiful dance programs for them with qualified teachers. This is needed in Greene very badly at an affordable price. Good professional & post-professional experience is needed for the choreography for any programs.

CONCLUSIONS

The citizens of Greene County seem quite aware of the services offered by PVCC to county residents. At the time the survey was administered, two of every three survey respondents had taken classes at the college, and nearly one of every four was currently enrolled. Fifteen percent had graduated from PVCC.

Although aware of the educational opportunities provided by the college, many residents confessed that at times they were unable to take advantage of PVCC services. Three of every four respondents stated that on at least one occasion they wanted to but were unable to take classes at PVCC. The main reasons for this concerned time and location. To many of the respondents, the commuting time to the main campus in Charlottesville is simply too long, and not enough of the classes they want are offered in Greene County. Furthermore, many of the classes offered in the county are scheduled at inconvenient times.

Additional off-campus courses, as well as additional off-campus locations, would do the most to encourage more Greene County citizens to take PVCC classes. Additional courses should range from traditional, "core" courses to narrow, vocational offerings. A number of respondents expressed a desire to enroll in special interest classes. All additional classes should be offered at locations which would reduce considerably commuting time.

APPENDIX A

GREENE COUNTY SURVEY COVER LETTER AND QUESTIONNAIRE

Piedmont Virginia Community College

Office of the President

Route 6, Box 1, Charlottesville, Virginia 22901-8714 Tel. (804) 977-3900 (V/TDD)

April 9, 1993

Dear Greene County Resident:

For the past 20 years, Piedmont Virginia Community College has served the educational needs of the citizens of Greene County. With nearly 50 academic programs of study and numerous support services, the college has helped residents meet many of their instructional, occupational, and personal goals. Additionally, the college has responded to the special training needs of Greene County businesses and industries.

While we at Piedmont Virginia Community College are proud of what we have accomplished in Greene County, we would like to provide even better educational services to you, the citizens of Greene County. To do this, we need to know what impact we have had upon you and what additional services you need.

Enclosed is a survey which asks for your impressions of Piedmont Virginia Community College and what services we could provide which would enable you to further your educational goals. Please complete the survey and return it as soon as possible in the stamped, self-addressed envelope.

Your responses to the survey will remain anonymous, but they will be extremely valuable to us at the college. You will be helping Piedmont Virginia Community College become an even more vital and positive force in Greene County.

Thank you for your assistance. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call on me.

Sincerely,

Deborah M. DiCroce
President

Enclosures

-- 19 of 20 --

PIEDMONT VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE
GREENE COUNTY SPECIAL SURVEY

DIRECTIONS: This survey is designed to help determine the postsecondary educational needs of the citizens of Greene County so that Piedmont Virginia Community College (PVCC) can better serve these citizens. Please place an X inside the box indicating the most accurate response for each of the following questions (as in the example below).

Are you interested in helping Piedmont Virginia Community College better serve the citizens of Greene County? ☒ *Yes* ☐ *No.*

1. Have you ever attended Piedmont Virginia Community College (PVCC)? ☐ Yes ☐ No.
   If you **have** attended:
   a. Are you currently enrolled? ☐ Yes ☐ No.
   b. How many classes have you taken? ☐ 1 ☐ 2-4 ☐ 5-9 ☐ 10-14 ☐ 15-19 ☐ 20 or more.
   c. Where were your classes taken? ☐ At PVCC ☐ Off-Campus (in Greene County)
      ☐ Off-Campus (elsewhere–please specify_____) ☐ Both on- and off-campus.
   d. Do you have a degree or certificate from PVCC? ☐ Yes ☐ No.

2. Has anyone else in your household attended PVCC? ☐ Yes ☐ No.

3. Have you ever wanted to take a class at PVCC but not been able to? ☐ Yes ☐ No.

4. Which of the following factors might prevent you from taking a class at PVCC and how important is each? If, for example, lack of transportation and lack of child care were the only two factors in your not being able to attend a class, you might check box 5 for transportation (it was a very important factor) and box 3 for child care (it was a somewhat important factor).

Item	Importance: Very 5	4	3	2	Little 1
Commuting time	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Class offered at inconvenient location	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Class offered at inconvenient time	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Lack of transportation	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Cost too high	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Job demands (too little time)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Personal demands (too little time)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Lack of child care	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Other (please specify)_____	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

5. Please indicate which of the following would encourage you to take classes at PVCC. Use the same rating scale as in the preceding question.

Item	Importance: Very 5	4	3	2	Little 1
Addtional off-campus courses	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Additional off-campus locations	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
More special interest courses	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Lower tuition and fees	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Additional counseling services	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Additional career and job services	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Additional credit for life experiences	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Improved registration procedures	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Greater instructor availability	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Child care facilities	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
More public transportation	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
More student activities	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
More recreational facilities or offerings	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Other (please specify)_____	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

_____

6. To help us determine community characteristics and needs, please complete the following questions describing yourself (optional).

   a. Sex: ☐ Male ☐ Female.

   b. Race: ☐ White ☐ Black ☐ Hispanic ☐ Native American ☐ Asian/Pacific Islander
   ☐ Other (please specify)_____.

   c. Age (as of April 1, 1993) _____.

   d. Formal education (check the highest level you have completed):
   - ☐ Up to 8th Grade
   - ☐ Some high school
   - ☐ High school diploma
   - ☐ 1-2 years of college
   - ☐ 2-year college degree (AA, AS, AAS, etc.)
   - ☐ 3-4 years of college (no college degree)
   - ☐ College degree (BA, BS, etc.)
   - ☐ Master's degree
   - ☐ Graduate school beyond the master's
   - ☐ Doctorate degree (Ph.D., M.D., etc.)
   - ☐ Other (please specify)_____.

   e. Marital status: ☐ Married ☐ Unmarried ☐ Separated, divorced, widowed.

   f. Employment: ☐ Full-time ☐ Part-time ☐ Student ☐ Unemployed (seeking employment) ☐ Homemaker, retired or other unemployed and not seeking a job.

7. Would you like further information concerning PVCC? ☐ Yes ☐ No.
   If you answered yes, please provide your name and address in the space provided below so we can mail material to you.

   _____

   _____

   _____

_____

Please add any comments you think would help us on the bottom of this page or on additional pages. Thank you very much for your time and effort in helping us serve you and the citizens of Greene County.

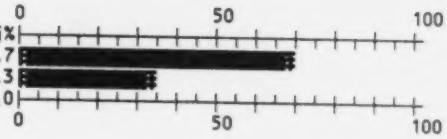
APPENDIX B

GREENE COUNTY SURVEY RESULTS

GREENE COUNTRY SURVEY RESULTS

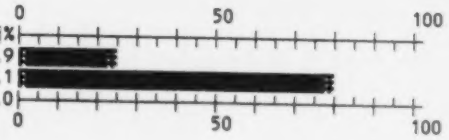
Have you ever attended PVCC?

	Count	%	Adj%
YES	285	67.1	68.7
NO	130	30.6	31.3
TOTAL	415	97.6	100.0



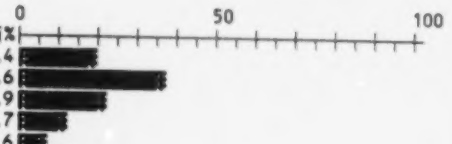
Are you currently enrolled?

	Count	%	Adj%
YES	76	17.9	22.9
NO	256	60.2	77.1
TOTAL	332	78.1	100.0



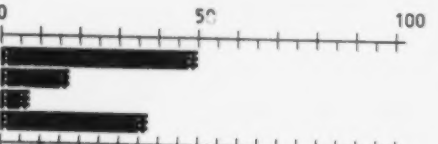
How many classes have you taken at PVCC?

	Count	%	Adj%
1 class	46	10.8	16.4
2-4 classes	100	23.5	35.6
5-9 classes	56	13.2	19.9
10-14 classes	30	7.1	10.7
15-19 classes	13	3.1	4.6
20 or more classes	36	8.5	12.8
TOTAL	281	66.1	100.0



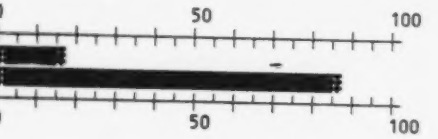
Where were your classes taken?

	Count	%	Adj%
At PVCC	131	30.8	46.3
Off-Campus (Greene Co.)	39	9.2	13.8
Off-Campus (elsewhere)	15	3.5	5.3
Both on- and Off-Campus	98	23.1	34.6
TOTAL	283	66.6	100.0



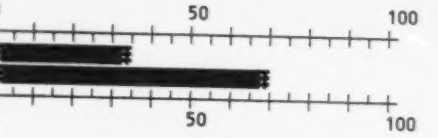
Do you have a degree or certificate from PVCC?

	Count	%	Adj%
YES	46	10.8	15.0
NO	260	61.2	85.0
TOTAL	306	72.0	100.0



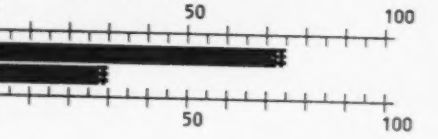
Has anyone else in your household attended PVCC?

	Count	%	Adj%
YES	132	31.1	31.4
NO	288	67.8	68.6
TOTAL	420	98.8	100.0



Have you ever wanted to take a class at PVCC but not been able to?

	Count	%	Adj%
YES	299	70.4	73.6
NO	107	25.2	26.4
TOTAL	406	95.5	100.0



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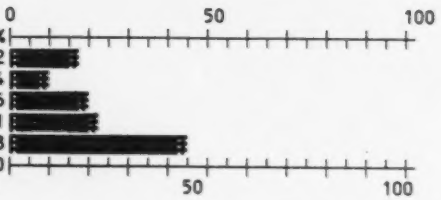
Commuting time

		Count	%	Adj%
Not very important	=1	55	12.9	15.2
Somewhat important	=2	23	5.4	6.4
More important	=3	60	14.1	16.6
Important	=4	69	16.2	19.1
Very Important	=5	155	36.5	42.8
	TOTAL	362	85.2	100.0

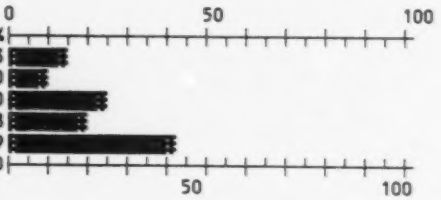
Mean=3.68



Class offered at inconvenient location

		Count	%	Adj%
Not very important	=1	46	10.8	13.3
Somewhat important	=2	24	5.6	7.0
More important	=3	76	17.9	22.0
Important	=4	58	13.6	16.8
Very Important	=5	141	33.2	40.9
	TOTAL	345	81.2	100.0

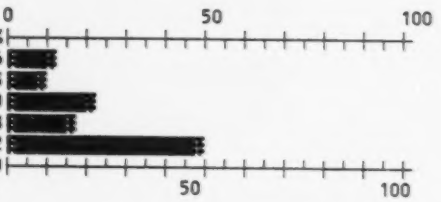
Mean=3.65



Class offered at inconvenient time

		Count	%	Adj%
Not very important	=1	33	7.8	9.6
Somewhat important	=2	25	5.9	7.3
More important	=3	65	15.3	19.0
Important	=4	54	12.7	15.8
Very Important	=5	165	38.8	48.2
	TOTAL	342	80.5	100.0

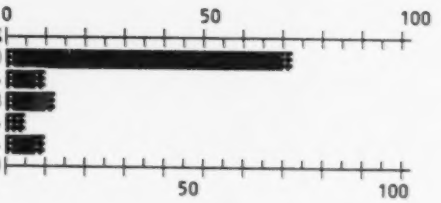
Mean=3.86



Lack of transportation

		Count	%	Adj%
Not very important	=1	211	49.6	71.0
Somewhat important	=2	25	5.9	8.4
More important	=3	26	6.1	8.8
Important	=4	10	2.4	3.4
Very Important	=5	25	5.9	8.4
	TOTAL	297	69.9	100.0

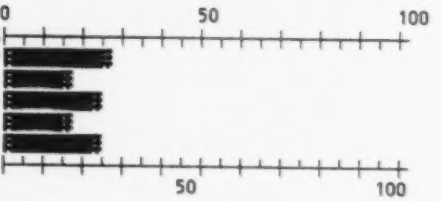
Mean=1.70



Cost too high

		Count	%	Adj%
Not very important	=1	83	19.5	24.9
Somewhat important	=2	51	12.0	15.3
More important	=3	76	17.9	22.8
Important	=4	48	11.3	14.4
Very Important	=5	76	17.9	22.8
	TOTAL	334	78.6	100.0

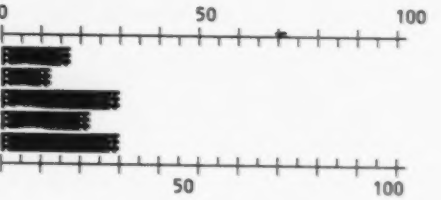
Mean=2.95



Job demands (too little time)

		Count	%	Adj%
Not very important	=1	53	12.5	15.0
Somewhat important	=2	33	7.8	9.3
More important	=3	94	22.1	26.6
Important	=4	73	17.2	20.7
Very Important	=5	100	23.5	28.3
	TOTAL	353	83.1	100.0

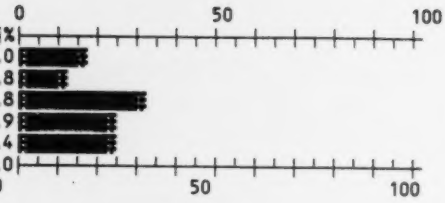
Mean=3.38



Personal demands (too little time)

		Count	%	Adj%
Not very important	=1	50	11.8	15.0
Somewhat important	=2	36	8.5	10.8
More important	=3	96	22.6	28.8
Important	=4	73	17.2	21.9
Very Important	=5	78	18.4	23.4
TOTAL		333	78.4	100.0

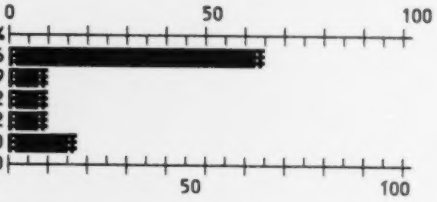
Mean=3.28



Lack of child care

		Count	%	Adj%
Not very important	=1	180	42.4	61.6
Somewhat important	=2	23	5.4	7.9
More important	=3	24	5.6	8.2
Important	=4	24	5.6	8.2
Very Important	=5	41	9.6	14.0
TOTAL		292	68.7	100.0

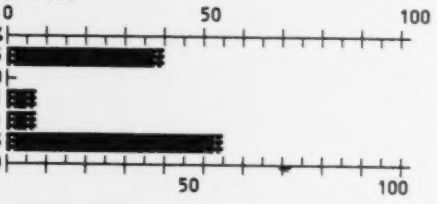
Mean=2.05



Other factor preventing me from taking a class at PVCC

		Count	%	Adj%
Not very important	=1	15	3.5	38.5
Somewhat important	=2	0	0.0	0.0
More important	=3	2	0.5	5.1
Important	=4	2	0.5	5.1
Very Important	=5	20	4.7	51.3
TOTAL		39	9.2	100.0

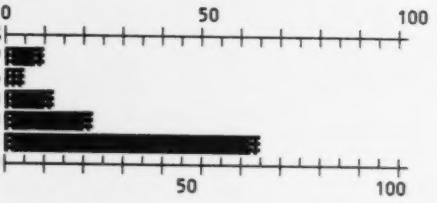
Mean=3.31



Additional off-campus courses

		Count	%	Adj%
Not very important	=1	26	6.1	6.9
Somewhat important	=2	6	1.4	1.6
More important	=3	38	8.9	10.0
Important	=4	72	16.9	19.0
Very Important	=5	237	55.8	62.5
TOTAL		379	89.2	100.0

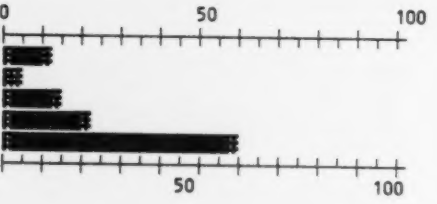
Mean=4.29



Additional off-campus locations

		Count	%	Adj%
Not very important	=1	33	7.8	9.2
Somewhat important	=2	10	2.4	2.8
More important	=3	41	9.6	11.4
Important	=4	73	17.2	20.3
Very Important	=5	202	47.5	56.3
TOTAL		359	84.5	100.0

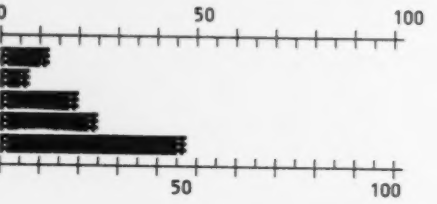
Mean=4.12



More special interest courses

		Count	%	Adj%
Not very important	=1	31	7.3	9.4
Somewhat important	=2	18	4.2	5.5
More important	=3	59	13.9	17.9
Important	=4	77	18.1	23.3
Very Important	=5	145	34.1	43.9
TOTAL		330	77.6	100.0

Mean=3.87



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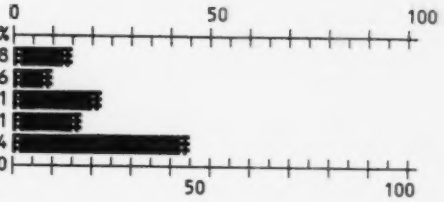
Lower tuition and fees

		Count	%	Adj%
Not very important	=1	41	9.6	11.8
Somewhat important	=2	30	7.1	8.6
More important	=3	70	16.5	20.1
Important	=4	56	13.2	16.1
Very Important	=5	151	35.5	43.4
TOTAL		348	81.9	100.0

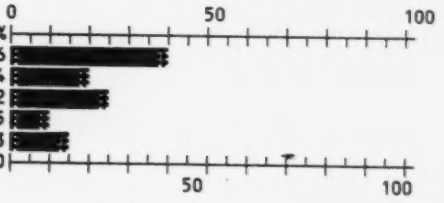
Mean=3.71



Additional counseling services

		Count	%	Adj%
Not very important	=1	113	26.6	38.6
Somewhat important	=2	54	12.7	18.4
More important	=3	68	16.0	23.2
Important	=4	22	5.2	7.5
Very Important	=5	36	8.5	12.3
TOTAL		293	68.9	100.0

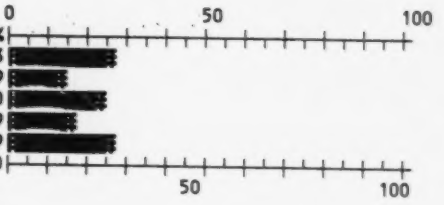
Mean=2.37



Additional career and job services

		Count	%	Adj%
Not very important	=1	75	17.6	24.3
Somewhat important	=2	40	9.4	12.9
More important	=3	71	16.7	23.0
Important	=4	46	10.8	14.9
Very Important	=5	77	18.1	24.9
TOTAL		309	72.7	100.0

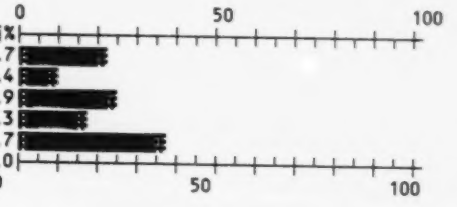
Mean=3.03



Additional credit for life experiences

		Count	%	Adj%
Not very important	=1	63	14.8	19.7
Somewhat important	=2	27	6.4	8.4
More important	=3	70	16.5	21.9
Important	=4	49	11.5	15.3
Very Important	=5	111	26.1	34.7
TOTAL		320	75.3	100.0

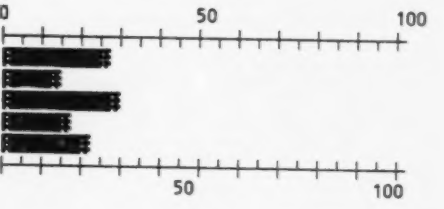
Mean=3.37



Improved registration procedures

		Count	%	Adj%
Not very important	=1	76	17.9	25.9
Somewhat important	=2	37	8.7	12.6
More important	=3	78	18.4	26.5
Important	=4	42	9.9	14.3
Very Important	=5	61	14.4	20.7
TOTAL		294	69.2	100.0

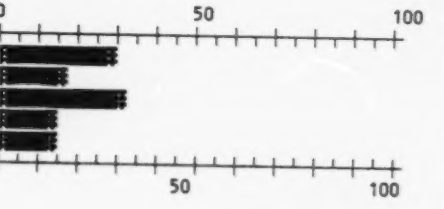
Mean=2.91



Greater instructor availability

		Count	%	Adj%
Not very important	=1	76	17.9	27.0
Somewhat important	=2	45	10.6	16.0
More important	=3	85	20.0	30.2
Important	=4	38	8.9	13.5
Very Important	=5	37	8.7	13.2
TOTAL		281	66.1	100.0

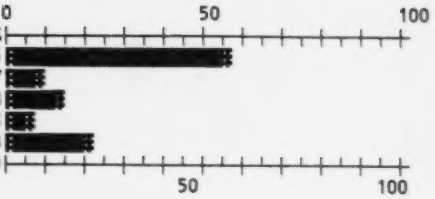
Mean=2.70



Child care facilities

		Count	%	Adj%
Not very important	=1	157	36.9	54.5
Somewhat important	=2	25	5.9	8.7
More important	=3	34	8.0	11.8
Important	=4	18	4.2	6.3
Very Important	=5	54	12.7	18.8
	TOTAL	288	67.8	100.0

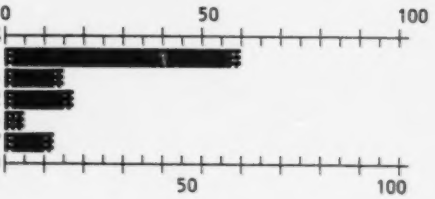
Mean=2.26



More public transportation

		Count	%	Adj%
Not very important	=1	168	39.5	58.1
Somewhat important	=2	39	9.2	13.5
More important	=3	41	9.6	14.2
Important	=4	10	2.4	3.5
Very Important	=5	31	7.3	10.7
	TOTAL	289	68.0	100.0

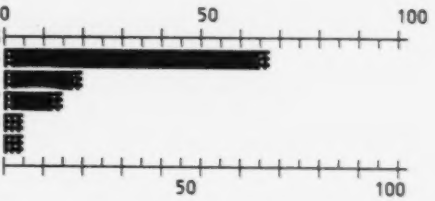
Mean=1.95



More student activities

		Count	%	Adj%
Not very important	=1	185	43.5	65.6
Somewhat important	=2	49	11.5	17.4
More important	=3	33	7.8	11.7
Important	=4	5	1.2	1.8
Very Important	=5	10	2.4	3.5
	TOTAL	282	66.4	100.0

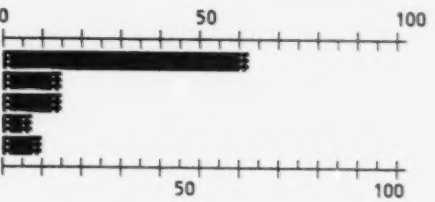
Mean=1.60



More recreational facilities or offerings

		Count	%	Adj%
Not very important	=1	171	40.2	59.8
Somewhat important	=2	39	9.2	13.6
More important	=3	38	8.9	13.3
Important	=4	17	4.0	5.9
Very Important	=5	21	4.9	7.3
	TOTAL	286	67.3	100.0

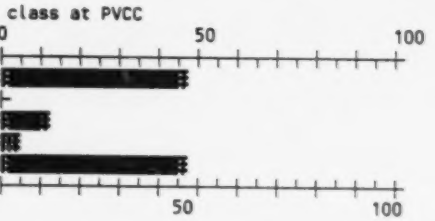
Mean=1.87



Other factor which would encourage me to take a class at PVCC

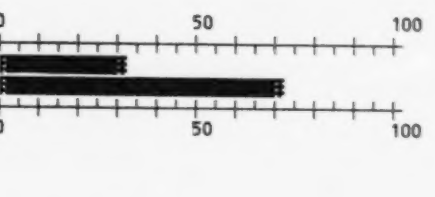
		Count	%	Adj%
Not very important	=1	19	4.5	44.2
Somewhat important	=2	0	0.0	0.0
More important	=3	4	0.9	9.3
Important	=4	1	0.2	2.3
Very Important	=5	19	4.5	44.2
	TOTAL	43	10.1	100.0

Mean=3.02



Sex

	Count	%	Adj%
Male	122	28.7	29.4
Female	293	68.9	70.6
TOTAL	415	97.6	100.0



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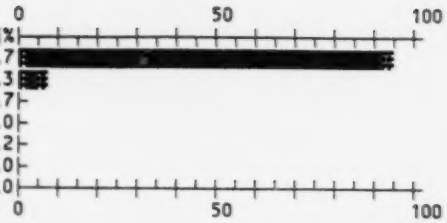
Race

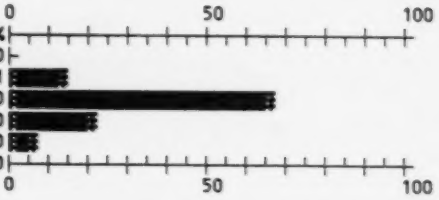
	Count	%	Adj%
White	383	90.1	92.7
Black	22	5.2	5.3
Hispanic	3	0.7	0.7
Native American	4	0.9	1.0
Asian/Pacific Islander	1	0.2	0.2
Other	0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL	413	97.2	100.0



Age Distribution

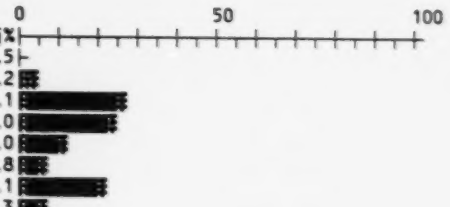
	Count	%	Adj%
0-17	4	0.9	1.0
18-24	49	11.5	12.1
25-44	259	60.9	64.0
45-64	77	18.1	19.0
65+	16	3.8	4.0
TOTAL	405	95.3	100.0

Mean=37.45



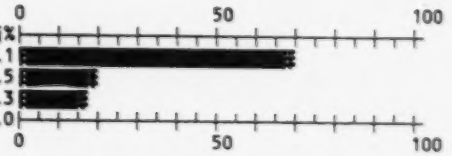
Formal education

	Count	%	Adj%
Up to 8th Grade	2	0.5	0.5
Some high school	9	2.1	2.2
High school diploma	109	25.6	26.1
1-2 years of college	96	22.6	23.0
2-yr. college degree	46	10.8	11.0
3-4 years of college	20	4.7	4.8
College degree	84	19.8	20.1
Master's degree	22	5.2	5.3
Graduate school	15	3.5	3.6
Doctorate degree	6	1.4	1.4
Other	8	1.9	1.9
TOTAL	417	98.1	100.0



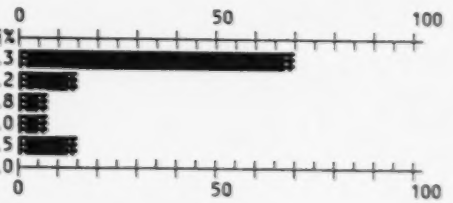
Marital status

	Count	%	Adj%
Married	280	65.9	67.1
Unmarried	73	17.2	17.5
Separated, divorced, widowed	64	15.1	15.3
TOTAL	417	98.1	100.0



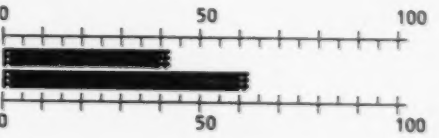
Employment status

	Count	%	Adj%
Full-time	276	64.9	66.3
Part-time	55	12.9	13.2
Student	16	3.8	3.8
Unemployed	21	4.9	5.0
Homemaker, retired, etc.	48	11.3	11.5
TOTAL	416	97.9	100.0



Would you like further information about PVCC?

	Count	%	Adj%
YES	153	36.0	39.7
NO	232	54.6	60.3
TOTAL	385	90.6	100.0



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APPENDIX C

COMMENTS OF GREENE COUNTY SURVEY RESPONDENTS

COMMENTS

[I would like] Info. on AA degree--counseling info, have taken 2 CLEP exams and various courses.

I was personally impressed with the classes as well as the instructors at PVCC. I have been considering returning to PVCC possibly in the fall and would very much like to receive some information on you classes offered there (particularly in the fine arts program). I would eventually like to get my 2-yr. degree, but at the moment is quite difficult due to my full time job and my "free-lance" photography business, plus planning my upcoming wedding. Do you think a wide range of classes are to be offered in the fall? Particularly in the evening hours? Thanks so much!

Keep up the good work!

The course offerings at PVCC have been invaluable in forwarding my educational goals. The instructors I've had . . . have been outstanding (and most helpful). PVCC's environment is very conducive to learning and I intend to continue taking courses through the school.

I have attended the course for my GED 2 times, but I dropout because of my full time job. I would like to say [instructor's name] will go extra miles to help you any way he can.

I was enrolled in PVCC about 6 1/2 years ago. Now I have 3 children and transportation and care child can get really expensive. I'm very interested in getting a degree for a CPA. That's what I was study[ing] for when I had to leave.

Thank you for your time and efforts in this matter. I'm sure a lot of people can get a lot out of getting and pursuing their education.

Please let me know when more HVAC and industrial electronics and electrical courses are offered in Greene.

Greene does not need a campus. It seems desirable to get our younger students away from the home environment.

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(1) A three-hour class is too long. The one I took that was this long I felt the instructor could have covered in two hours.

(2) During the two courses I took involving laboratory work after the classroom it was difficult to receive necessary help from the instructor. In each instance the instructor spent too much time with the better students in the class. In both courses, both computer courses, I really needed the help. I am "computer dumb" even now.

(3) If worthwhile, I would be happy to teach a course in Oriental rugs. I collected these for 14 years, still have most of them. I have 12-14 books on the subject, have given talks to women's clubs and other groups. I generally show four or five rugs per talk.

I have been wanting to attend PVCC classes in Greene Co. Having a family and full time job makes it difficult to commute to PVCC campus several times a week. I always browse through your course/class paper that comes through the mail. I have always had a desire to complete my education. For adults like myself, if your school could offer more courses, in more convenient locations, I would be thrilled for the chance to finish my education. Is there special counselors for your adults students?

Unfortunately we are moving, but I think it would be a great idea to offer more classes in the Greene County area, especially since the area is growing so fast.

I plan attending in May of 93 for summer class, then transferring to Bridgewater.

I would like to see more courses offered earlier in the evening, 5-7:30 would be ideal. Having classes from 7-10 is too late if you've worked all day.

I think the courses at Albemarle High School are convenient for Greene residents but why can't we use the new section of the high school? Why do you cram people into those small desks when you have much nicer rooms available?

I would like to stress, have classes start earlier--4 or 5 o'clock p.m.

The off campus course offerings are a wonderful service of PVCC. We only hope they will continue and be expanded in the future.

Question: What are the requirements for a part-time instructor position: math, science, or engineering?

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please send me financial aid information such as requirements, application, and ways it could be use. I would like your current catalog and map or the campus.

At one point, PVCC allowed partial payment of tuition fees to reserve a spot in a class. However, when I resumed taking classes in 1988 and was told that full payment of tuition and fees was needed immediately to insure that you would remain registered in your classes. If this is still the case then I believe the policy should be changed. Given the services that PVCC provides and the current state of the economy, increasing tuition rates is understandable. Even at the current tuition rate attendance at PVCC should be considered a bargain. However, the previously mentioned policy excludes a significant amount of prospective students from attending PVCC. Those who are ineligible for financial aid or just don't want to apply for aid to take a few classes often cannot attend because of this policy. An installment plan where one could pay a portion of tuition and fees when registering and the rest by mid-semester would make it easier to attend school.

Our daughter and son-in-law row live out of state and both received degrees from Piedmont and went on to U. Va. for degrees. Piedmont helped them get a sound footing for U. Va. I enjoyed my courses there. Hope to do more soon.

Off campus registration for any course offered would be a plus.

Working swing shift (4 weeks day shift/4 weeks night shift) is becoming more popular in my age group of people who would like to continue their education. If classes could swing also or if one would be able to take the same course but switch classes and or instructors according to his or her shift, this would encourage more enrolment.

I would like to see a welding cass over the summer.

Would be very interested in EMT classes at a reasonable cost and at enough varied times to be able to attend around my work.

I'm interested in art (painting, oils), drawing, etc.

I moved to this region approxinately 3 years ago from Charleston, WV. I found that Charleston provided many more choices, options, and opportunities for education (at a college level). There were at least 4 different institutions fron which one could receive a 4 year degree. They were all within driving distance. I feel there is a sufficient need in this area for another "4-year institution." I find if one works full-time in this region it is likely he/she will not be able to continue on-going education toward a 4 year diploma. What are the possibilities that Piedmont may, at some point in the future, offer practical extended educational opportunities (4 year degree)?? I don't think U.Va. nor "the Mary Baldwin Program" are fully meeting the needs of the community! We need 4 year degrees!

I would like very much to take some courses, but we are too high of income for any assistance, but our bill to income ratio is almost equal so I am unable to pay for classes.

You need to offer as many vocational and business classes as you can in the Greene County area.

I am currently completing English Comp. 112 at the Greene Co. campus. I would like to see more required "core" classes offered in Greene.

How about a course in Tai Chi? Or other "martial arts" as apply to females, (as well as males!)

Needed

Environmental educational courses
World events discussion-type class

PVCC is an asset to the community. I don't know what Greene County ever did without it. I guess we didn't get to further our education. Thanks for all your great contributions.

PVCC offers excellent educational programs but I think expansion would draw more enrollment from Greene County. Maybe some evening classes or weekend workshops would be ideal. I believe the American public needs uplifting and educational workshops on positive mental attitudes to enrich whichever aspect of their lives that needs fulfillment. This could reach all aspects and all works of life.

I am very interested in the possibility of establishing satellite and/or extended campus facilities for PVCC in the future. With the current growth trends in Greene County, including a 9% growth in the school system during the past school year. Many high school graduates attend PVCC.

Courses offered that would help teachers in their recertification would be of great help in this area. Greene teachers would appreciate it if they did not have to commute to Charlottesville or even Harrisonburg to JMU for classes.

Another college should be built, but better serve the rural community. Madison, Orange, Greene, etc. have to travel very far and that is time-consuming. You would more than likely have a larger attendance by doing this. I myself drive 30 miles to PVCC and it takes me an hour to get through the traffic, which is ridiculous.

I would like to see more drawing and painting classes during the day. I know it is hard for the excellent teachers to give daytime hours. It is far to drive at night to come home after 10 o'clock p.m. I also have all my available time during the day.

I would like to take a class with [instructor's name]. Thanks for the inquiry! I actually live in Albemarle but very close to Greene.

I felt counselors didn't help the untraditional student much at all. A reason I no longer attend your facility, I needed guidance with the numerous choices. I felt like I was taking classes without a goal. If a counselor could take the time to show me the variety ways a degree could take me, I could feel confident of a program--they kept directing me into a liberal arts degree, but being an untraditional student. How am I to know what that is? I deal in reality--what kind of a job can I get with this degree? Thank you for your time.

I have design and computer skills and would be very interested in conducting classes here in Greene. If there is interest in basic publishing/print prep or Mac based design please let me know. I did enroll in a business class but it was unfortunately cancelled.

I would like to see more music classes offered. I am interested in piano. Do you ever offer piano instruction classes--advanced?

I am interested in what courses you offer and if you accept life experience towards credits.

Thank you for trying to improve your services to this county. I would like to see a smoother, streamlined process to obtain a 2 year (or 4) degree for a subject/field one may have 10 years experience in, is a family supporter, and cannot spend 2 years or 4 years to earn that degree. Either through a testing similar to entrance exams or at the class level, something should be able to save some time and money in the process.

Interest in: Finance--stocks, bonds, options, etc. Have [instructor's name] teach the class, tax laws, financial planning, volunteer services, cooking specialties.

Was a volunteer rescue worker for 7 years.

Was a "trouble shooter" for major paper maker--listed corp.

Please offer a wider selection of courses in Greene!!

I have 2 children 2 years old and a diabetic and a 2 month old. It is very hard trying to get someone to watch them for me to do anything.

I would like to teach a basic sewing and smocking class through PVCC sometime in the future. I have been sewing and smocking for 15 years and have taken courses nationally.

We have some "career crisis" going on in our household. Do you provide any career counseling or guidance?

Please think of the lower income people and their need for more education in the fields they choose (and therefore will be able to excel in). We have some classes here but not enough. Why don't you offer horticulture or some related field classes? There is a need for more landscaping, etc. classes in this area. Not everyone can travel to Blacksburg, or even your campus for that matter. I am thankful you asked us our options. Thank you for your interest.

I would like to see PVCC add more business courses to Greene County, and for them to be offered at night.

I think it would be a great help for LPN's returning to school to receive an AAS degree if your past experience could be counted towards challenging more courses. Many working mothers, like myself, have worked in may area of nursing and are capable of functioning in an RN capacity but lack the degree. My daughter will be graduating next year and plans to attend the AAS program at Piedmont to become an RN. She is confused about what courses she should have completed in high school to be accepted into the RN program. The counselor at the high school has not been very knowledgeable in this area. My daughter is currently in the nurses aide program at the high school and plans to receive a certification. Please send me any information that could assist my daughter in getting prepared to apply for the RN program at Piedmont.

Need nursing classes in Greene--many women work full-time and also have family responsibilities.

Between 1988 and 1990 I tried to take a basic health course at PVCC for teacher certification. The course was cancelled every time, both during the summers and regular sessions. I still need the course but wonder if it will ever be offered.

It was a little hard what to answer very or little. I mean it means a lot to me (that particular question on other side), but I wasn't sure either the cost or place or time. Meaning I didn't know the details, so I really can't answer properly. I would love to go back to college and get my degree though. I went to College of Marin in California. I wonder how many credits I would get from there?

I believe the first two years of college today should be at the community college level.

A few years ago I wanted to take Principles of Management. It was only offered at inconvenient times and places. I made a request to [individual's name], who wasn't sure if Greene County had enough interested people. I then spoke to the local Chamber of Commerce who made calls to members suggesting that this course might help their business. It worked. We had 35 people register for the class, but it was a lot of work just to get the class I needed. A similar request/opinion poll of residents might work to determine who wants or needs what.

I would like courses like horticulture and other practical courses for the homeowner to be offered at night in Greene County.

I wish you would offer beauty/hair care at night. I would be interested in beauty classes, but cannot afford to get night job and go to school during the day.

I work at U.Va. and classes there are too expensive. I have 20 years computing experience and have been programming for 15 years. Unfortunately I am not paid as a programmer. PVCC will probably never offer COBOL in Greene, but what about a correspondence type of course. I had taped lectures, a book and assignments, I believe I could do well with this type of course. Tests could be given under one of the instructors at the Greene Center and assignments mailed into PVCC. When I took my first semester of COBOL I used the mainframe at U.Va. for assignments, I am sure they would let me do so again. Please let me know if PVCC would consider this type of course.

After working in the industrial electronics field for several years, I found there is a great demand for people who know how to work with Program Logic Controllers (PLC's). I would like to see a course that teaches how to operate and write programs for PLC's.

I would like to see more computer classes at the Greene Co. location.

I am in my last year of school. I am in the GED program. I am taking it this summer. I have thought about going to business classes. But the cost is really the main problem. Could you send me some information on management business classes?

I would like to see more classes in Greene that are related to an Associates degree. Most of the classes are the same thing over and over. Also I would like to see some summer classes available in Greene.

Classes needed are math & algebra, keyboarding, accounting, English, and many other basic classes.

It would be nice of you offered good classes in interior design! I also have friends who would like to be opticians (fitting glasses & contacts) but J. Sergeant Reynolds College is too far away.

Your classes that are held at the Tech school are always on a Tuesday & Thursday evening which is very inconvenient!

I didn't appreciate being approved for a Pell Grant and then being denied. Documents had been sent back to me over and over again saying there was not enough information or there were mistakes made after I had been approved verbally. I took a lot of time trying to get some financial help due to low income, so that I may take some classes and establish getting my degree in computers and/or electronics. Certain circumstances keep me from achieving this! That's being approved and denied.

People such as I need a chance to advance our education so that I can afford to pay child care. I'm talking about quality child care. So that I can be comfortable working and giving my kids a better chance at a successful education that me or my husband do not have.

Please take my comments seriously because a lot of people in my situation are ashamed to tell how they really feel. If you can better one person by my comments that I have written one person is in a greater situation than I.

Am interested in special interest areas.

Some classes on Saturday evenings would be nice because I work late 2 nights a week and am unable to be at class before 7:00. The classes usually start at 6 or 6:30. More Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday classes.

One of the best courses I ever took was in economics at PVCC and was self-paced. Answers were given to problems. You "taught yourself" and when ready, came in to take the tests. You could go fast or slow as it suited you. The instructor was available if needed, at certain times (at least 12 or so years ago). I prefer more home based typed courses, or even correspondence courses. Possibly ones that hook up to computers.

Thanks for giving me this opinion. I really appreciate it. The public or people need to know that disabled people's needs are like normal people, too. Want to better their self in education and other fields too.

Info. on Associates degree program at a Greene County location. Keep up the good work. I commend you on your responsiveness to the business community and to the rural communities at large.

I would like to say that I am considering taking classes this semester but it would be great if some of these classes would be offered in Greene County.

For me personally, the biggest drawback to attending PVCC is the sixty mile round trip to and from the school. Unfortunately, there are very few courses offered in the Greene County area that are appropriate for the serious student.

Well, for one thing, I am not a citizen of Greene County and have never been. I live in Orange County which is located near Greene County. I figure that is why I was considered a Greene County resident.

I moved down here (Central Virginia) about 3 years ago from the Northern Virginia area. I work in Charlottesville, live near Stanardsville. PVCC is out of the way. Almost took a course in welding this term, but didn't have the time available. Course was offered in Greene Co. Hopefully, I'll be able to try a course or two in the coming years. I think it is great that PVCC is trying to accommodate everyone in the region. Similar to NOVA CC and their multiple campus set up. Keep up the good work.

A larger selection of courses offered in Greene County. The travelling distance is much too far. Classes to be offered by PVCC in our local high school.

More specific courses in computer, technical math, etc. could be held at GE Fanuc facility...for all pay levels, especially those in lower pay grades.

Classes I would like to take are only offered at Piedmont, and the driving time means I don't get home until almost 11 p.m. This restricts my number of classes I can take at one time due to my time restrictions.

I was at PVCC from 1973-1978 and tuition was $75.00 for a full load of 12 hours. Now it costs that (practically) to take one class. Your costs are ridiculously high.

I would like to take classes for my RN but living in Greene and working full-time, I find it very hard to get to the classes I need. With all the teachers and schools in Greene, wouldn't you think some of the classes I need would be offered in Greene. Also, PVCC classes are sometimes only 2 hours long. If I'm driving 45 minutes one way I would like classes to last 3 1/2 to 4 hours at a time to ask instructor questions.

Life experiences credit sounds wonderful. I have started a Day Care Association and a Day Care Information and Referral source in Greene County under the extension office and run a home day care with a business license, pay tax and soon hope to finally get some education! Today I was at a forum with Delegate Butch Davies for Day Care legislation, but have no credentials of my own except experience.

More courses in Greene County. Thank you.

Classes on investments; stocks, bonds. Have [individual's name] teach it.

Allow on-site registration at first class meeting to eliminate additional trip to PVCC for that purpose. Hire more competent instructors. Some demonstrate deficiency in breadth and depth of knowledge and competency to teach.

Interested in art, photography, phys. ed., tennis, aerobics.

I just finished a PVCC class at Albemarle High School. This saved me a lot of driving time. Maybe classes on the 29 route, like at Hollymead, would draw more people than coming all the way to the Greene schools. There is a lot of growth in Greene County, but most of it centers around Ruckersville, and most people are driving to Charlottesville to work. Thank you for considering this matter.

[I] Pursue an Associates degree in nursing. The relatively low cost of tuition was also an important factor in my decision to enroll there. I believe more residents of Greene County would be able to attend classes if some were offered closer to home. I would very much like to see that happen.

Too long to drive! If I took a class that's 3 hours by the time I drive back and forth that class is almost 5 hours!!!

I would like to receive information about classes offered in Greene County this summer. Mostly I am interested in business courses and some photography classes.

My husband is presently interested in attending police related courses and would like to see some offered in this area. I am interested in more computer courses.

I would like a copy of your course catalog if possible.

I would be interested in any specialized electronics classes that could be offered on site at Comdial. I have already completed the soldering class offered by PVCC at Comdial and found it to be very informative and it was also convenient.

Interested in appraisal courses. At my age, I could work at a different pace than the past. Nothing offered in Greene.

Credited or uncredited courses. Classes in low fat healthy cooking would be nice. A women's course teaching helpful information on an auto so when you need to take it to be repaired you can explain what you need to without feeling stupid. Learning to do minor repairs around the house.

I would like to know more about self-paced (low class attendance time) courses. Especially computer/technical courses.

Would like to see more classes offered in written communication skills (English, grammar, punctuation, terminology, i.e. medicolegal) also--computer basics--terminology, applications, capabilities, etc.

It would be very helpful to have course descriptions included in your regular mailings. I have very specific interests and never know what your courses cover.

I think PVCC is doing a terrific job answering the needs of this Piedmont area. I've been attending PVCC with the exception of this spring semester for 12 years. If people really want to be educated they will find a way to juggle schedules and transportation. I think more emphasis should be made on the benefits an education can make on your life and your lifestyle. Publicity that's real, not phoney can really make an impact and open up the closed minds so they will want to further their education beyond high school.

Would like more degree courses offered closer to home (Greene Co.).

Please contact me if and when PVCC is able to provide classes within reach of Greene.

I would be interested in taking adult continuing education classes such as furniture refinishing, basket making, crafts, etc.

Please send more info on how I may qualify for financial assistance. I am interested in pursuing my Associates degree at PVCC, however, unless I can obtain a student loan, my future educational plans are hopeless. My income is $22,000 per year. Please respond with correspondence on how I may begin my program.

Classes offered during day should be given at night and vice versa.

I'd like my grades for a Wordperfect 5.1 course I took in Greene County in Jan-March, 1993.

Survey a good idea!

It would be nice if more health-related field curriculum's could be offered. (e.g. ultrasound technician, dental assisting, etc.) or (paralegal assistant) related to the professional fields.

I have enjoyed my experiences at Piedmont tremendously, but the night drive for 7 to 10 p.m. classes is considerable--particularly in the winter. There are offerings in Greene, I know, but few and mostly of a technical nature.

My office is only a short distance from Albemarle High School. It would help me a lot to have additional night classes offered at AHS.

I wish there was a way I could take a GED test at home. Is there any way I can earn my GED diploma at home? I don't like to be around people. That's the reason I quit school. I'm shy. I don't like having to stand up in front of people and have to talk to them.

I am interested in taking business courses at Piedmont.

I am concerned that high school students in Greene County are not aware of PVCC programs and services. If you don't already do it, I think you should have someone working with students on a regular basis, beginning in the freshman year. There is a high percentage of adults in Greene County who have not completed eighth grade so that students don't get the encouragement they need from home.

I am currently enrolled in PVCC, taking a class at Albemarle H.S. in the evenings. Unfortunately, there are no summer classes at Albemarle. I will be taking a summer class, but I wish there was class availability at Albemarle or somewhere closer than PVCC (as I travel from Barboursville).

In the fall/spring of 93-94, I will be applying for the nursing program. I have completed almost all of the pre-requisite classes and want to begin the clinical portion in the fall of 94. I am very concerned about 2 matters: 1) Child care for my children, who at that time will be 2 and 4 years; 2) Financial aid--I will have to quit my part-time job, as the clinical program is during the daytime.

At this time I wish to take the insurance course (property & casualty). Saturdays from 8 to 5 are totally out of the question. Piedmont is way too far to travel and whole days are impossible to mothers. I'd like to see more day business classes located outside the main campus.

Greene needs a lot more classes. You can draw from Madison, Rockingham, Greene, northwestern Albemarle, and Orange.

I am not attending PVCC. More day classes in the summer session would help.

I would like to take Nursing classes. If I had some kind of child care provided while taking 1-2 courses at a time to work towards a degree, I would pay regular price (child care provided) to fulfil this goal. If more of these classes were offered in Greene with child care, I would be in there. Classes should start in Greene around 6-6:30 and be finished no later than 8:30 (or a 4-6 hour class on Saturdays).

Please send me some information on child care you have available now, or if not now, on child care you will have available in the future.

I thoroughly enjoyed taking the CNA classes under [instructor's name]. She is a very good teacher. I learned a lot and enjoyed the learning. I wish, very strongly, that Greene Co. would offer an LPN course at the school, at a reasonable price, at night, taught by [this instructor]. I would really like to continue my education in nursing, but I work and support 2 children. I need some kind of classes I can take at night and on weekends. I would really like to be an LPN.

I am a 25 year old single parent of two children. I get very little assistance from my ex-husband. I am interested in something that would allow me to go to school and have my children within the same area (with someone who is very trustworthy). I would love to be able to get a business degree. Thank you for your time.

I am planning to return to PVCC in the fall to work towards my RN degree. I hope to start nursing classes in Sept. 94 and will use this year to complete some pre-requisites. It would be very helpful if courses such as Human At. and Psy. would be offered at the Greene Cty. Vo. Tech. as well as Math, English, and Biology.

I chose to go to PVCC after high school because I couldn't afford UVa. I met a lot of wonderful people during my two years at PVCC and subsequently attended UVa's McIntire School of Commerce. I now hold a great sales job in the insurance industry. I can't praise the PVCC facility enough. One day, when time & money permit, I would love to come back and take some more art classes.

Might be interested in teaching PART TIME. Am presently teaching VIDEO, THEATRE, COMMUNICATION ARTS and ARTS & HUMANITIES. I teach in a college in Baltimore where I am also Chairman of the Division. We will be moving here permanently in the future, and I would be interested in teaching one or two courses. Please send your catalogue!

I would like to take bookkeeping & computers. I did bookkeeping in the Navy.